UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/825,995	04/05/2001	Tsuyoshi Miyamoto	PF-2841/NEC/US/MH	3864

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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2151	

DATE MAILED: 09/09/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

		Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary		09/825,995	MIYAMOTO, TSUYOSHI
		Examiner	Art Unit	
		Khanh Dinh	2151	

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _17 October 2003_.
2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.
3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-9_ is/are pending in the application.
    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6)☒ Claim(s) _1-9_ is/are rejected.
7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on _05 April 2001_ is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.
    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
    a)☒ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:
        1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
        2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
        3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _10/17/2003_.
4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6)☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION.

1. Claims 1-9 are presented for examination.

Specification

2. The following title is suggested: "Directory server system for storing past-history information".

Claim Objections

3. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 and 9 are objected to because of the following informalities: There is a spelling error in the claims: "history informations" should be changed to "history information". For examination purpose, the Examiner assumes the limitation to be "history information".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5.   Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Reed

et al. (hereafter Reed), U.S. Pat. No.6,088,717.

As to claim 1, Reed discloses a directory server system comprising:

a directory server (directory server 32 fig.1) for storing an attribute of an

entry (user information) (providing user information and/or system information to

other computers, see fig.1, col.12 line 50 to col.13 line 9).

an entity monitor (provider computer 1 fig.1) being connected to said

directory server (32 fig.1) for monitoring an entity (transmitting changes in

information), so that if a change in a state of said entity appears, then said entity

monitor instructs said directory server (32 fig.1) to renew an attribute of a

corresponding entry to said entity (processing the changed information through

the communications network, see col.13 lines 10-50).

and a directory renewal history storage device (consumer database 21

fig.1) being connected to said directory server for storing a renewed attribute

(changed information) of said entry as attribute renewal history information

(information stored the database includes data, metadata and instructions used

to control communications between directory server, provider computer and

consumer computer, see col.13 line 51 to col.14 line 59).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for

all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described
as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to
be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been
obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which
said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the
invention was made.

7.   Claims 2-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Reed in view of Soejima et al. (hereafter Soejima), U.S. Pat. No.5,713,027.

As to claim 2, Reed discloses the directory server system as claimed in claim 1,

further discloses both directory server (32 fig.1) and directory renewal history

storage device (21 fig.1) to obtain said attribute renewal history information (see

Reed's col.13 line 51 to col.14 line 59).   Reed does not specifically disclose a

time-correspondent directory server for confirming an existence of a target entry,

so that if said existence of said target entry on said directory server could be

confirmed then obtaining the information. However, Soejima in the same data

communications environment discloses a time-correspondent directory server

(file server 20000 fig.1) connected to a directory server (20002 fig.1) for

confirming an existence of a target entry (file server ID), so that if said existence

of said target entry on said directory server could be confirmed then obtaining the

information (using the file server IDs in the file server to provide user information

and system information to other computers, see fig.1, col.5 lines 10-49 and col.6

lines 1-51). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at

the time the invention was made to utilize Soejima 's file server into the computer

system of Reed to monitor data information because it would have conducted

efficiently the management of various information as such as user information

and host information on a computer network (see Soejima's col.6 line 52 to col.7 line 16).

As to claim 3, Reed discloses the directory server system as claimed in claim 2, further comprising a directory purging entry storage device (editable preference element 143 fig.3) being connected to said directory server, said directory renewal history storage device and said time-correspondent directory server for storing an entry corresponding to an absent entity which has become absent (element preference exists is absent), whilst said entry becomes absent on said directory server (in fig.3, if an element for which an association with an element preference exists is absent in the communications object update, the consumer may wish to be notified and/or the element preference instance deleted, see fig.3, col.39 line 40 to col.40 line 49).

As to claim 4, Reed discloses the directory server system as claimed in claim 3, wherein if said entity becomes absent, then said attribute renewal history information (communication object update) of a corresponding entry to said absent entity are deleted from said directory renewal history storage device (the consumer may wish to be notified and/or the element preference instance deleted), and in place said directory purging entry storage device stores said attribute renewal history information (see col.39 line 12 to col.40 line 49 and col.42 lines 4-23).

As to claim 5, Reed discloses the directory server system as claimed in claim 4,

further comprising a time-correspondent directory client (147 fig.3) connected to

said time-correspondent directory server for sending said time-correspondent

directory server a request for obtaining attribute history information at a past time

(using a consumer program to see the number of previous instance of a

communications object stored in the consumer database) of an entry from said

time-correspondent directory server in order to refer said attribute history

information at said past time(see Reed's col.39 line 40 to ocl.40 line 49 and

col.42 lines 4-23).

As to claim 6, Reed discloses the directory server system as claimed in claim 5,

wherein if said request (a message object by the consumer program) from said

time-correspondent directory client is free of any access right (testing to

determine if it belongs to the message object subclass), then said time-

correspondent directory server rejects said request and sends said time-

correspondent directory client a notice to the effect that said request is illegal (in

the case that the UID of the parent object is not present, the message object is

rejected as invalid and displaying to the user a result in an error message as

user's notification report, see col.43 lines 5-36 and col.44 lines 25-64).

As to claim 7, Reed discloses the directory server system as claimed in claim 4,

further comprising a time-correspondent directory client (log event class 118

fig.3) connected to said time-correspondent directory server for sending said

time-correspondent directory server a request for obtaining attribute history

information (communication relationship histories) during a past time period

(using event tracking control to report the statistics of communications objects or

usage of the provider's program) of an entry from said time-correspondent

directory server in order to refer said attribute history information during said past

time period (see col.90 lines 1-52 and ocl.91 lines 12-67).

As to claim 8, Reed discloses the directory server system as claimed in claim 5,

wherein if said request (a message object by the consumer program) from said

time-correspondent directory client is free of any access right (testing to

determine if it belongs to the message object subclass), then said time-

correspondent directory server rejects said request and sends said time-

correspondent directory client a notice to the effect that said request is illegal (in

the case that the UID of the parent object is not present, the message object is

rejected as invalid and displaying to the user a result in an error message as

user's notification report, see col.43 lines 5-36 and col.44 lines 25-64).

As to claim 9, Reed discloses the directory server system as claimed in claim 1,

wherein said directory renewal history storage device also stores renewal time

and date together with said renewed attribute of said entry as attribute renewal

history information (issuing a Web server HTTP file date request and comparing

this with the file date of the last update, see col.13 lines 11-50 and col.20 lines 5-

54).

Other prior art cited

8.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

a. Kitamura et al, US pat. No.6,247,012: System and method for delivering information on the basis of contents of the information in a consolidated manner.

b. Yoshida, US pat. No.6,442,587: Supervision of data when the client or server breaks down.

c. Yurkovic, US pat. No.6,668,353: Portals used to retrieve customized set of information during web browsing activities.

d. An et al., U.S. pat. 6,715,073: System and method for securing end-to-end communications system in the Internet.

Conclusion

9   Claims 1-9 are rejected.

10   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khanh Dinh whose telephone number is (703) 308-8528. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 A.m. to 5:00 P.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Zarni Maung, can be reached on (703) 308-6687. The fax phone number for this group is (703) 872-9306.

A shortened statutory period for reply is set to expire THREE months from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to response within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned (35 U. S. C . Sect. 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(A).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305 -9600.

Khanh Dinh
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2151
9/6/2004